

Montana DEQ Forest Fire Smoke Advisory

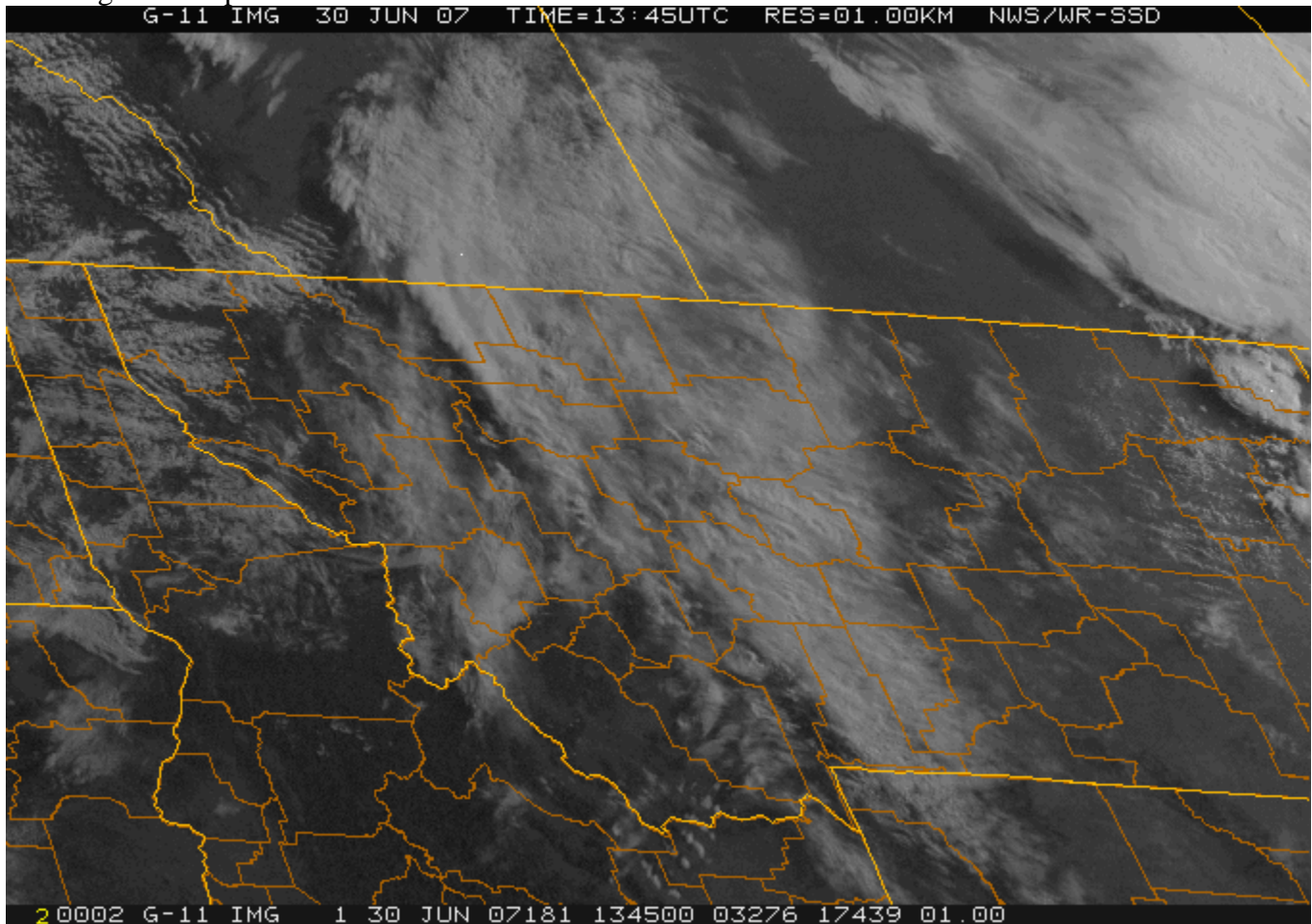
June 30, 2007

9:00 AM

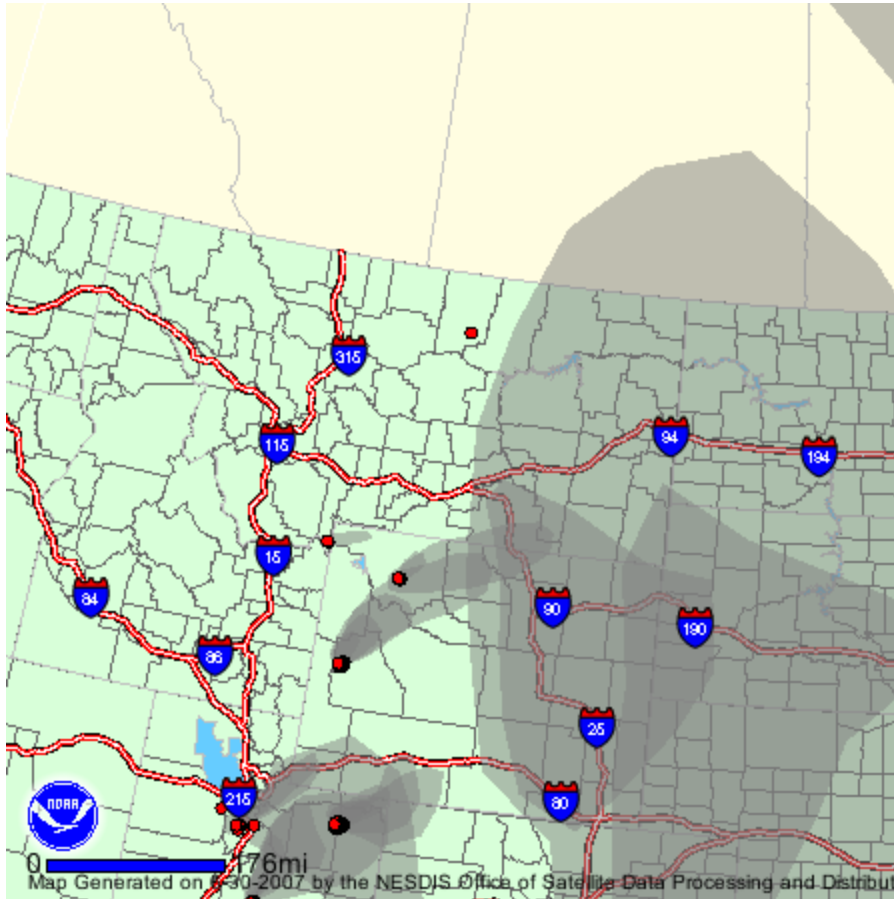
Current Situation

Smoke levels in West Yellowstone are at [GOOD](#) conditions so far this morning as light southwest winds have kept the smoke out of town. Substantially reduced fire activity yesterday due to favorable weather conditions and aggressive suppression has limited the smoke production as well. North winds and potentially severe thunderstorm conditions are still on tap for today and that will challenge the suppression crews and potentially drive smoke in town later today. Smoke levels downwind of the fire are expected to stay at [UNHEALTHY](#) or worse today. See the forecast below for details. Residents in areas with nearby fires should pay attention to current conditions and use the [VISIBILITY GUIDELINES](#) to determine smoke levels in their area and guide their activity decisions.

Morning satellite photo centered on Great Falls:



This morning's analysis from NOAA's satellite services division shows the active fires in Montana and the smoke plumes combining and spreading downwind (the analyzed smoke is based on yesterday's satellite coverage, the fire detects are based on last night's satellite coverage)



Red indicates hot spot detected. Grey represents smoke seen by satellite. Fire size is exaggerated for visibility at this scale

To identify individual fires on graphic above go here:

http://activefiremaps.fs.fed.us/lg_fire2.php

Real time particulate information is currently available in most of the larger urban areas from several different sources including: DEQ run PM-10 BAMS and PM2.5 BAMS, NWS ASOS visibility monitors, and USFS remote access Nephelometers and BAMS.

This morning's smoke report is below, comparing particulate levels where we have information to MDEQ's Forest Fire health advisory levels.

<http://www.deq.state.mt.us/FireUpdates/SmokeCategories.asp>

Updated 9:00 AM June 30, 2007

Locations and severity of forest fire smoke reports since midnight of the date above at reporting stations.

<u>HAZARDOUS</u>	
<u>VERY UNHEALTHY</u>	
<u>UNHEALTHY</u>	
<u>UNHEALTHY FOR SENSITIVE GROUPS</u>	
<u>MODERATE</u>	

T1(x) One-hour TEOM or BAM value (number of values)
T8(x) Eight-hour average TEOM or BAM value(number of values)
T24 24 hour average TEOM or BAM value
Vis(x) Visibility value(number of hours)
Vis(am/pm) Visibility value from twice/day reporting stations
(est) estimate

Local impacts in areas immediately adjacent to active fires are expected to exceed some or all of the advisory levels. DEQ recommends the use of local visibility guidelines <http://www.deq.state.mt.us/FireUpdates/VisibilityRanges.asp> to evaluate possible health risks and make informed activity decisions.

Forecast

North winds are still forecast into the West Yellowstone area later today. This could result in very intense smoke conditions south of the Madison Arm fire for a few hours before the overall southwest flow reestablishes itself later tonight. There is a potential for severe thunderstorms in the area which could produce strong and erratic wind conditions for a few hours. Residents near active fires need to remain aware of current conditions and use the visibility guidelines:

<http://www.deq.state.mt.us/FireUpdates/VisibilityRanges.asp> to guide their activity decisions as the situation changes.

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